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Foe's Reason 'Farcical'

Rep. Moss Fights Move To Drop Watchdog Unit

Rep. John E. Moss (D-Calif.) said yesterday it is "farcical"

to believe that abolishing his House Freedom of Information Subcommittee will strengthen efforts to combat Government secrecy.

The antisecrecy subcommittee is being abolished under orders of Rep. William L. Dawson (D-Ill.), chairman of the parent House Government Operations Committee.

Dawson, eliminating the information group and two other subcommittees as part of an economy reorganization plan, initially made no provision for continuing the Subcommittee's function as a clearing house for complaints at improper withholding of Government news.

Later, he said each of the seven surviving subcommittees would be charged with policing unwarranted secrecy within the agencies under its own jurisdiction. The Committee is charged with overseeing agency operations.

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